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Work and Workers.

AN attempt is being made in Germany to introduce for school and family reading what is called the "School Bible," an edition of the Bible from which is omitted those portions of the Scriptures which are not desirable for general or public reading because of the subjects of which they treat, or the plainness of the language, or the imagery employed. The movement is supported by liberals, and opposed by conservatives.

THE death of Rev. Talbot W. Chambers, D.D., took place in New York City, February 4, after a prominent and useful life of seventy-seven years. Since 1849 he had been a minister of the Collegiate Dutch Church, and at the time of his death was President of the Western Division of the Alliance of the Reformed Churches. He was also a trustee of Princeton and of Rutgers Colleges. He had been a member of the American Committee on Bible Revision, and was chairman of the Committee on Versions of the American Bible Society.

A COLPORTER of the American Bible Society recently undertook to present forty-five copies of the Greek New Testament to the monks in the Greek monastery of Mt. Athos. He was regarded with suspicion, but they agreed to take the books, only they did not wish to give him any acknowledgment of their receipt. As he thought he could not part with them without such an acknowledgment, they became still more suspicious, would have nothing to do with the books, and summarily dismissed him from the monastery. But business forms must be observed.

THE first four volumes of the *Modern Reader's Bible*, edited by Professor R. G. Moulton, of the University of Chicago, and published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., of New York, are now announced. They are the great wisdom books of the Old Testament and Apocrypha, namely, *Ecclesiasticus*, *Ecclesiastes*, *Wisdom of Solomon*, and *Job*. The text is that of the Revised Version, with the marginal readings generally preferred, and accompanied by an introduction and a few annotations. The purpose of the volumes is to present these ancient pieces of literature in modern literary form. The little books are attractive, and the purpose is certainly accomplished.

THE new building of the College of the Bible at Lexington, Kentucky, was recently completed and dedicated. It is three stories high, of brick and stone, and stands upon the campus of Kentucky University, of which the College of the Bible is a component though independent part. There is an attendance of about one hundred and fifty students. President J. W. McGarvey has made the school one of knowledge and influence. There are

four departments: the School of English, the School of Sacred History and the Evidences of Christianity, the School of Sacred Literature, and the School of Philosophy. In them all the Bible is the text-book, and much faithful work is done in the study of the Scriptures from all points of view.

THE *Independent* calls attention to the fact that no considerable good has come from the Pope's encyclical letter of two years ago on the subject of the study of the Bible. During these two years not a single new edition of the Bible, or of any part of it, has appeared under the auspices of the Church. There is one edition in three large volumes for sale costing twelve francs. There is an edition of the New Testament alone, printed in 1882 in Turin, costing four francs in paper cover; and there are two or three editions of Gospels alone somewhat cheaper, but still very expensive. It is stated that at the archiepiscopal bookstore at Milan, probably the largest in Italy, not a hundred copies of all these editions together are sold in a year. It is interesting to contrast with this the last reports of the British and Foreign Bible Society and the National Bible Society of Scotland. The circulation of the two together was: Bibles, 7662; Testaments, 16,926; portions, 165,065 making a total of 189,633, an increase of nearly 25,000 copies.

THE Boston publishing house of Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. have in preparation a volume to be entitled *The Bible as Literature*, made up of twenty essays from a number of prominent biblical scholars on different books of the Old and New Testaments, and upon various aspects of the Bible in general. An introduction for the work will be written by Lyman Abbott, and there will be chapters as follows: "The Bible as Literature," by Professor R. G. Moulton; "The Law of Moses," by Dr. A. B. Bruce; "The Age of the Judges," by Professor L. W. Batten; "Ruth and Esther" and "The Book of Jonah," by Rev. J. W. Whiton; "The Book of Job as Literature," by Professor J. F. Genung; "The Poetry of the Psalms," by Dr. Henry Van Dyke; "The Love Song of the Bible," by Dr. W. E. Griffis; "The Influence of Biblical upon Modern English Literature," by Professor A. S. Cook. The subjects and authors of the remaining chapters are not yet announced. The volume will no doubt be well received, and will be of considerable value in a popular way.

DR. KENNEDY, Professor of Oriental Languages at Edinburgh University, delivered a course of seven lectures on the History of Pentateuchal Criticism, to ministers, in the Christian Institute, Glasgow, on Monday afternoons during November and December. The titles of the lectures were as follows—Purpose and plan of the course: I. The Mosaic Tradition Stated and Tested; The Pioneers—Spinosa, Simon, Le Clerc. Three Stages of Pentateuchal Criticism: II. Criticism mainly *Literary*; Astruc, Eichhorn, Ilgen; III. *Historical* Criticism, and the School of De Wette; IV. The Graf-Wellhausen Theory of the Pentateuch. The Documents of the Pentateuch Examined: V. The Leading Characteristics of the Prophetical (J. E.)

and Deuteronomic (D.) Sources. VI. The Priest's Code (P.), Its Value for History and Doctrine. Summary of Results: VII. Effect of Modern Criticism on Current Conceptions of Old Testament Religion. Professor Kennedy's lectures were largely biographical. He gave an account of the various Old Testament Critics from Spinoza to our own day, illustrating his remarks by an exhibition of the various books that have been written on the Pentateuch. Some of them are very rare, as for example Astruc's book, which none present had ever seen before. Among the helps recommended *Hebraica* Vol. V. following was given the leading place. Between forty and fifty ministers were enrolled, embracing all the denominations. This is the second course of lectures delivered to ministers in Glasgow and neighborhood. Dr. Bruce gave the first course last winter. The third course is to be given in November and December, 1896, by Rev. Professor Orr, of the United Presbyterian Hall, Edinburgh. It will likely be the same course he delivers in Chicago during the summer, and will consist of lectures on German Theology.

PROFESSOR PAUL HAUPT, of Johns Hopkins University, has just returned from Europe, where he has been conferring with the gentlemen associated with him in preparing the critical edition of the Hebrew Bible and the English translation of the same. He says that one-half of the work is already in type, and that the books of Genesis, the Psalms, Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Ezekiel and Daniel will soon be issued. It is expected that the completed work will appear in 1897. The new English translation is also making satisfactory progress. Of the six parts in type three will appear in the spring, namely, Isaiah, in three colors, translated by Canon T. N. Cheyne, of Oxford; Judges, in six colors, translated by Professor George F. Moore, of the Andover (Mass.) Theological Seminary, and the Psalms, the critical German prose translation of which was made by Professor Wellhausen, of the University of Göttingen, and the poetical translation from this by Professor Horace Howard Furness, the distinguished Shakesperean scholar, of Philadelphia. The English translation will be issued by the Friedenwald Company, of Baltimore, new fonts of type having been especially cast for the purpose. The paper and press work will be the finest obtainable, and the work will be embellished with numerous illustrations collected by Professor Haupt. The other three parts in type are Leviticus, translated by Canon S. R. Driver, of Oxford; Ezekiel, translated by Professor C. H. Toy, of Harvard; and Kings, translated by Professor B. Stade, of the University of Giessen, Germany. The biblical scholars throughout the world are looking forward with eager interest to the outcome of this great undertaking. It will be the aim of Dr. Haupt, the editor-in-chief, and the eminent scholars associated with him, to give to the world a critical text of the Hebrew Scriptures that will come to be recognized by scholars as the standard text. In regard to their new English translation of the Old Testament books, it is their aim to make it at once more accurate and rhythmical than either the authorized or revised version.